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Acknowledgement is here made of books, pamphlets and papers which have been received, but which must await renewed strength for review. Ornithological literature is becoming pleasantly abundant!

The editor hopes to be able to present a full report of the studies of bird movements on Pelee Island, which occupied a class of ten students the whole of August and part of September. It was expected that this report would be ready for this issue, but the unkindness of the island in presenting to him who was to correlate the facts gathered, with the germs of typhoid, prevented.

We are glad to announce that the March issue of the Bulletin will contain a paper based upon careful studies of the birds in southern Illinois, in their relation to plant associations, by Frederick C. Gates of the University of Michigan, besides other papers and notes of exceptional value and interest. We have inside information that an increasing number of persons are conducting summer studies along the line of the relations of the birds to their environment. Such studies should be written and submitted to the Bulletin for publication.

Reviews

DISTRIBUTION AND MIGRATION OF NORTH AMERICAN SHOREBIRDS."

By WELLS W. COOKE, BIOL. SURVEY BULL. No. 13.

This pamphlet contains a very thorough and painstaking compilation of ornithological data on the Shorebirds of North America. Under every species is noted the breeding and winter range, the migration range, the spring and fall migration. It is the first pamphlet that has done the numerous records to be found in the Wilson Bulletin fair justice, in great contrast to Ridgway's Birds of Middle and North America and the new A. O. U. Check List, where records in the Bulletin have been persistently ignored, in the face of the fact that all records and serious articles contain scientific names. Nevertheless, as far as Ohio is concerned, a few errors and omissions can be found, e.g. the earliest Ohio state record in the spring for *Totanus melanoleucus* is March 14, 1899, *Pisobia minutilla*, April 19, 1909, for *Bartramia longicauda*, March 21, 1902, for *Pisobia maculata*, March 24, 1909, etc. But we do not want to pick flaws, and believe that these little faults do not

detract from the value of the volume, which contains a vast amount of good information and should be in the hands of every bird student in the land.

W. F. H.

CHECK LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS. THIRD EDITION REVISED
AUGUST, 1910.

After preparation of four years the "new" Check List at last has made its appearance. We are both delighted with it and disappointed. Delighted with the nine changes in the construction of the new edition as enumerated on pages 11 and 12, disappointed because some other changes, timely and needed, indeed, have not been forthcoming. It may perhaps seem superfluous to give another review of this work, since an extended review of it has already appeared in the Auk. Unfortunately, however, the reviewer in the Auk is himself a member (in fact the chairman of the committee) which had the preparation of the Check List in hands, hence, although we have the greatest personal respect and admiration for him, cannot though he may strenuously strive to be absolutely impartial in his review. On the other hand we well know that the Reviews signed J. A. A. stand exactly for the views of J. A. A., and do not necessarily have back of them the authority of the entire A. O. U. Likewise the initials here appended indicate only the writer as responsible for the stand taken.

The List as a whole is a great improvement over the former editions, as in giving determination of type species, stating type localities and similar other matters. A purely typographical error is found on page 262, the Genitive of Gambel must be gambeli and not gambel. An inconsistency is the accentuation of Calidris in *Calidris leucophaea* and *Calidris* in *Vireosylva calidris*, it should be calidris in both cases. The name of the Vesper Sparrow must be *Poœcetes* and "not" *Pœcetes*, for *Poa* and *oiketes* can never be contracted into a word having the accent on the last syllable. To any scholar the perpetuation of such cacographical errors as *Leptotila* and *Harelda* and others is a source of grief, for no matter what the rules are governing our List in bird names in such cases, it is no more than proper that such glaring mistakes should be wiped out forever; or if the rules of nomenclature forbid the correct spelling of names, then change these rules.

We had fervently hoped to see a modern system of classification used in the Check List, for to place the Striges with the Falcones and Sarcorhamphi or better between the Falcones and Cocyges, where they certainly do not belong, and similar instances are numerous enough, and then to excuse the retaining of the old system by saying "that all present systems of classification in orni-